



Photos by Chet Bloomquist

The 28-mile Branford Trail is a unique trail that borders a majority of the town's perimeter. The trail passes through the shoreline, wetlands, many town parks, northerly Land Trust properties. The trail is separated into eight sections that begins and ends at a public road with space for parking. Every home in Branford is within 15-minutes walking time of a trail. The entire Branford trail is best walked in a counter-clockwise direction.

This 2.6 mile section of the Branford Trail features the Stony Creek Quarry Preserve and travels along the Branford/Guilford boundary entering Guilford for a short portion of the trail. The trail starts at the Quarry parking lot, but mostly then travels to the east of the Quarry. The trail travels through a ravine and then turns eastward into Guilford. The trail turns south briefly, passes through a narrow gorge (shown left) and then turns north again on Granite Road near The Gables (a retirement village). A special feature of the trail (shown right) is an area where there is a collection of "selectman's stones." Historically the First Selectman of each town would annually walk the town boundary. A marker was left with the date and the person's initials. There are additional trails within the 450+ acre Stony Creek Quarry Preserve which also connects to Guilford's extensive Westwoods trail system.

Quarrying of famous Stony Creek granite originated in the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The quarry has been in continuous operation for over 170 years, and its Stony Creek panels formed the base of the Statue of Liberty, Grand Central Terminal in New York, the cladding for the Brooklyn Bridge and South Station in Boston. In 1978, Stony Creek granite was chosen by architect Philip Johnson as the exterior veneer on the AT&T headquarters in New York, which led to the reemergence of the use of architect-



Directions and Parking:

Take Stony Creek Road (Route 146) to Quarry Road to reach the Stony Creek Quarry Preserve. Parking is on Quarry Road at the start of the trail just after passing through the wetlands.

Permitted Activities:

This trail is for Hiking and biking. Dogs are permitted on leash. Please bag and pick up all dog waste. Trails are open from dawn to dusk.

This project made possible through a grant from the National Recreational Trails Program, the Federal Highway Administration, and the Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection.



U.S. Department
of Transportation
Federal Highway
Administration

**For more information about
this location, contact:**

Town of Branford
Parks and Open Space Authority
(203) 488-8394, ext. 120

**South Central Regional Council of
Governments**

127 Washington Avenue, 4th Floor West
North Haven, CT 06473

Phone: (203) 234-7555
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BRANFORD TRAIL:

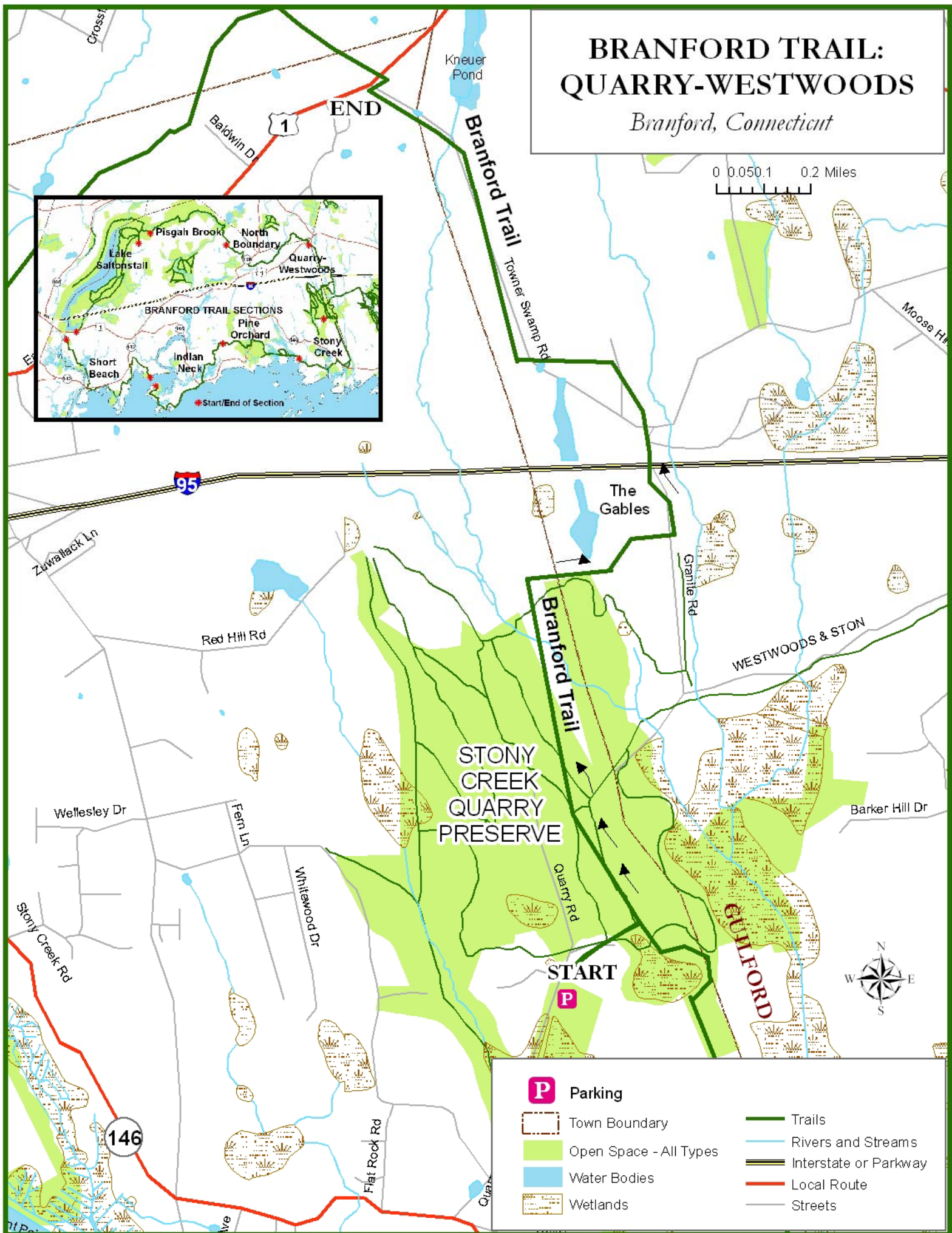
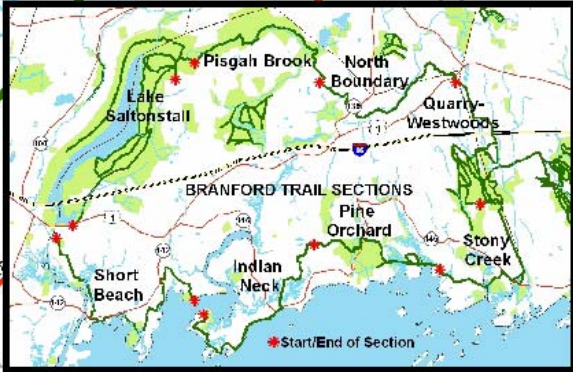
QUARRY— WESTWOODS

Branford, CT

BRANFORD TRAIL: QUARRY-WESTWOODS

Branford, Connecticut

0 0.050.1 0.2 Miles



Parking



Town Boundary



Open Space - All Types



Water Bodies



Wetlands

Trails

Rivers and Streams

Interstate or Parkway

Local Route

Streets